STOCK BROKER.
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15 and 16 Masonic Temple, London, MONEY TO LOAN

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M. H. ROWLAND, Manager. 420 Richmond Street.

Montreal Stock Market.	
MONTREAL, Dec. 1	h
	i
Canadian Pacific	1
Duluth. common 4	
Duluth. preferred 7	
Commercial Cable	1
Commercial Cable Couron Bonds105	í
Commercial Registered Bonds105	i
	î
Kichelien and Untario110	í
Montreal Street Hailway 2534	2
	2
Toronto Ranway 85%	1
Montreal Gas Company187	1
Bell Telephone1774	1
Royal Electric, xd	1
Bank of Montreal240	9
Ontario Bank101	1
Molsons Bank	
Bank of Toronto230	2
Merchants Bank	1
Merchants Bank of Halifax	1
Quebec Bank	1
Union Bank	1
Bank of Commerce 1941	i
Bank of Commerce	1
Northwest Land, pref	1
Montreal Cotton Company	1
Canada Colored Cotton	
Dominion Cotton 95	
SALES-Can. Pac., 25 at 811: Duluth Co)
150 at 31; Toronto Ry., 150 at 852; Bank	ζ
Montreal 19 at 927	

Ontreal, 12 at 237. Toronto Stock Market.

	TORONTO, Dec. 1
Montreal	
Ontario	1001
Toronto	30
Merchants	184
Commerce	
Imperial	188
Dominion	2531
Standard	174
Hamilton	
British America	
Western Assurance	
Imperial Life	
Consumers' Gas	
Montreal Gas	
Dominion Telegraph	
Montreal Telegraph	
Northwest Land Co	mpany, pref 54
Canada Pacific Rail	way Stock 804
Commercial Cable C	ompany1814
Com. Coupon Bonds	105
Commercial Registe	red Bonds105
Postal Telegraph Co	mpany
Bell Telephone Com	pany1741
Richelieu & Ontari	0108
Montreal Street Rai	Iway234
Toronto Street Rail	way 851
Dominion Savings	and Invest
Farmers' Loan and	Savings
Farmers' L. and S.	20 per cent
Huron and Erie L. a	nd S170
Huron and Erie. 20 1	per cent158
London and Canada	. L. & A 95
London Loan	
Londor and Ontario	90
Ontario Loan and D	ebenture
SALES-1 p.mV	Vestern Assurance, 25
168: Com, Cable. 25.	10 at 1814 11:30 a.m.
P. R., 10 at 807. 25 at	804.

New York Stock Market. Reported by F. H. Butler, stock broker, 15 and | the Artist

Yesterday's				
Close	Open	High	Low	Close
Atcheson 131	13	13	13	134
C. B. & Q 971	977	984	974	'98
C. & N. W120	120	1204	120	1201
Chicago Gas 954	954	961	951	964
General Electric 331				
L. and N 574	574	674	578	571
Manhattan1071	1074	107	106	107
Missouri Pacific 341	347	351	344	35
Pacific Mail 31	311	311	311	311
Rock Island 904	408	90+	90	904
Reading 21	21	211	21	211
Bt. Paul 947	943	95	944	947
F. C. I 25	257	254	257	251
Wabash 184	181	18	18	18
W. U 90	90	901	90	
Dis. Trust	8	8	8	8
Leather Trust 61	633	64	634	64
Bugar Trust 1411	1411	1434	1404	142
Tobacco Trust 874	874	831	874	881

COMMERCIAL.

Montreal Produce Market.

Montreal, Dec. 11.-Grain in store-Grade 2, oats, 27c; peas, 57c; rye, 511/2c; buckwheat, 36c; barley, 36c to 40c; winter wheat, 90c; red, 91c. Flour-Strong bakers, \$4 50 to \$5; spring patents, \$5 40; winter patents, \$4 75 to \$5; straight roller, \$4 40. Provisions-Canadian pork, per bbl, \$15 to \$16; ham, 11c to 13c; bacon, 10c to 12c; lard, pure, 7c to 71/2c; compound, 5c to 51/4c. Feed-Bran, \$10; shorts, \$11, bulk; Manitoba bran, \$10 50; shorts, \$11 50, bagged. Produce-Eggs, fairly active; new laid, 22e; choice candled, 18c to 19c; Montreal limed, 14c to 15c; western, 12c to 13c. Honey-Quiet; white comb, clover, 121/2c; dark, 101/2c; extracted, light, 8c to 9c; dark, 7c to 8c. Poultry-Slow; turkeys, 7c to 71/2c; chickens,61/2c; ducks, 8c; geese, 5c; Beans-Quiet, at 80c to 85c; primes, 90c to 95c for choice hand-picked.

Toronto Produce Market, Toronto, Dec. 11.-Wheat-The demand is quiet; prices are steady, at 82c to 83c west for red winter; Manitoba wheat steadier, at 98c to 99c for No. 1 hard at Sarnia. Flour-Steady, at \$3 90 for cars of straight roller west. Millfeed and barley unchanged. Buckwheat, 30c west. Rye-Steady, at 44c west. Corn, 25c for new Canada yellow west. Oats—Steady, at 22½c for mixed and 23½c for white west. Peas— Unchanged, at 45c middle freights and 44c west. Baled hay-Slow at \$8 to \$9. and straw at \$4 50 to \$5, according to quality. Eggs-Fresh in good demand, and steady, at 16½c to 17c; cold storage and held fresh, 14c, and limed, 13c. Butter-Large rolls in fair demand and steady, at 14c to 15c; choice dairy tub

scarce and firm, at 151/2c to 16c; me-

dium dairy tub, 14c. American Markets. NEW YORK, Dec. 11.-Flour-Receipts, 34,679 bbls.; sales, 3,400 pack-ages; state and western quiet and unchanged. Rye flour—Steady. Wheat— Receipts, 176,675 bu; sales, 855,000 bu; options, No. 2 red dull and easy all the morning under weak cables and liquidations; Jan., 974c to 97%c; May, 99%c to 93%c; December, 97%c to 97%c. Rye—Dull; No. 2 western, 51c, c. i. f., Buffalo. Corn—Receipts, 39,975 bu; sales, 15,000 bu; options, No. 2 ruled quiet but steady on wet weather west; May, 33%c to 33%c. Oats—Receipts, 213,600 bu; options, No. 3 dull; track white, 28½c to 35c. Butter-Receipts, 3,735 packages; steady; state dairy, 13c to 20c; state creamery, 14c to 23c; western creamery, 14c to 24c; imitation creamery, 13c to 17c; Elgins, 24c; factory, 13c to 17c. Cheese—Receipts, 4,100 packages; steady; large

white, Sept., 84c to 84c; small white, LATEST WEATHER FORECAST. To Abolish the Tolls. Sept., 9c to 94c. Eggs—Receipts, 2,278

Toronto, Dec. 11—11 a.m.—Probabilipackages; steady; state and Pennsylvania, 21c to 25c; western, 21c to 24c. Sugar—Raw firm; fair refining, 3%c; centrifugal, '96 test, 3 15-16c; refined firm; crushed, 5%c; powdered 5%c; granulated, 5 1-16c. Petroleum—Dull. Coffee—Quiet. Hops—Steady and unchanged. changed. Lead-Dull and unchanged.

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.-Opening: Wheat -Dec., \$1 04; May, 91%c to 911/2c; July, 83c. Corn—Dec., 25%c; May, 28%c. Oats—May, 22%c. Pork—Jan., \$8 22%; May, \$8 47%. Lard—May, \$4 50. Ribs

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 11. - Flour firm; spring wheat, No. 1 hard, \$1 001/2; No. 1 northern, 98½c to \$1 02½. Winter wheat, No. 2 red, 95c; No. 1 white, 95c in store. Corn-No. 2 yellow, 311/2c; No. 3 yellow, 31c; No. 4 yellow, 30c; No. 3 corn, 30c on track. Oats-No. 2 white, 28c to 28%c; No. 3 white, 27%c; No. 4 white, 261/2c on track; No. 2 white, in DETROIT, Dec. 11.-No. 1 white, cash,

91c; No. 2 red, cash and Dec., 92c; May, TOLEDO, Dec. 11.-Wheat, cash and Dec., 951/2c; May, 94c. Corn, cash and 26½c; May, 28%. Oats, 22c.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 11.-Wheat, cash, 87c; May, 911/8c. Chicago Exchange. Following are the fluctuations on the Chicage Board of Trade furnished by F. H. Butler Broker, Masonic Temple. 'Phone 1.278. Chicage, Dec. 11.

Wheat-Dec... \$1 04 \$1 05 Corn-Dec. May ... 281 Dec ... 22 May ... 224 Dec ... 7 40 Jan ... 8 22 Oats-Dec Pork-Dec Lard-Dec 4 25 4 25 Jan.... Ribs—Dec..... 4 22 Jan.... 4 20 4 22 4 20 4 22 Puts, 901: calls, 921. English Markets.

Wheat — Spot, No. 2 red western winter, steady, 7s 10d; spot No. 1 red northern spring, Corn—Spot American mixed, quiet, 3s 2d; Dec., quiet, 3s 14d; Jan., quiet, 3s 14d; Feb., quiet, 3s 14d.
Flour-St. Louis fancy winter steady, 10s. Beef - Firm, extra India mess, 66s 3d; prime mess, firm, 56s 3d. Pork - Prime mess, fine western, firm,

Liverpool, Dec. 10-Closing.

48; 9d; do, medium, western firm, 46; 3d. Hams-Short cut 14 to 16 lbs, steady, 32; 6d. Bacor.—Cumberland cut. 28 to 30 los., steady. 30s od; short ribs, 20 to 24 lbs, dull, 35s; long clear middles. light. 35 to 38 lbs. dull, 31s; long clear middles, heavy 40 to 45 lbs. dull, 39s 6d: short clear middles, heavy, 45 to 50 lbs. no stocks: clear bellies, 12 to 14 lbs. dull, 40s; short clear backs, 16 to 18 lbs., dull, 30s. Shoulders-Square 12 to 14 lbs. firm, 293. Lard-Prime western, firm, 22s 9d. Butter-Finest American, 92s; good, 60s.

Cheese-American finest white and colored Tallow-Prime city, steady, 18s 6d. Cottonseed oil - Liverpool refined, steady: 14s Turpentine spirits-Steady, 24s.

Hops-At London (Pacific coast), firm, £4 Live Stock Markets. CHICAGO, Dec. 11.-Hogs-Estimated | thought proper.

receipts today, 22,000; deft over, 2,500; ther slow: prices steady to weaker than opening; light, \$3 25 to \$3 371/2; mixed, \$3 25 to \$3 40; heavy, \$3 15 to \$3 40. Cattle-Receipts, 400; quiet, but steady. Sheep-Receipts, 1,500; slow and

of Sunny France, the Skill of the Perfumer, the Touch of

1234

are all blended in the dainty and exquisite perfume among holiday shoppers.

W. T. STRONG & CO., DISPENSING CHEMISTS, 184 Dundas Street, London.

IRISH "BULLS."

Not Horned Animals, but Queer Forms of Speech. [Philadelphia Times.] The Irish are credited with a pecu-

liar talent for making "bulls." Here are some examples: Patrick, when he first landed in America, happened to see a locomotive go flashing by. He started back and yelled to his friend: "Will ye look at that! Ov all the wonders I iver seen it bates them all. Sure it's a steamboat search-

in' for wather." Another Irishman said: "I saw Pat Ryan the other side of the way. I thought it was Pat and Pat thought it was me, and when I came up, begorra, it was neither of us."

Another excused himself from going to church by saying he had such an excellent telescope that with it he could bring the church so near he could hear the organ playing. It was Pat who observed, after

watching two men shoot at an eagle and kill it, that they might have saved the powder and shot, as the fall alone would have killed the bird. Another Irishman assigned as a reason for not putting out a fire in his kitchen with, a kettle of boiling water that was near that it was hot water, and it was Pat's reply to a man who boasted that he had the smallest horse in the country: "By me faith, I have one as little as two of it." Another one is told of a horse. Pat said he could leap over a ditch at least

30 feet wide, but as Pat describes it, he did it in "two jumps." And it was Pat again who, telling a story as original, and being informed by one of his auditors that he had read it in the translation of a Latin work, cried out: "Confound those ancients! They are always stealing one's good

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

Mrs. Prior, wife of Lieut.-Col. Prior, M.P., Victoria, B.C., died on Thursday

morning. The Toronto presbytery has nominated Rev. Dr. Carmichael for the moderatorship of the general assembly.

The new Turkish baths in Quebec were destroyed by fire Friday morning. Several narrow escapes are reported. Alphonse Cyr, who ran a nail into

A letter has been received from Major Walsh, written from Lake Ben-

ties for the lower lakes region for the

next 24 hours: Partly clearing, with strong breezes from west to north; lower temperature; light local showers or snow flurries. Fair on Sunday.

-Miss E. Kennedy, nurse, of Catherines hospital, is visiting Miss L. Gatecliffe, 267 Dundas street. -Committee rooms have been opened at 11 Leslie street, London West, by Ald. Parnell's supporters. A committee room has also been established in

every ward. -Mr. B. L. Bryant, of the city, represented the Western University Thursday night at the 11th annual dinner of the Toronto University Medical Faculty.

-Mr. G. V. Hendershott, who was killed at Brantford, while testing the wheels of a train previous to its departture, was an uncle to Miss Lotta Percival, Dundas street, city. Miss Percival has gone to Brantford. -H. Frank Whetter, who is repre-

senting the M. S Benedict Manufacturing Company, of East Syracuse, N. Y., has opened sample rooms at 394 Richmond street, in the offices for-merly occupied by Parke & Purdom. -In connection with the Memorial Church anniversary a delightful entertainment has been arranged for Monday evening in the lecture room. Miss Love, Mr. Ruthven McDonald and Mr. J. Baldwin will take part in the vocal music.

-The splendid programme prepared by Court Excelsior, A. O. F., for the concert in St. George's school house, London West, on Tuesday evening next, will undoubtedly be the event of the pre-Christmas season. A large and pleased audience is assured.

-Engineers John McFadden and Geo. Phipps have been transferred from the Wabash to the G. T. R., and will drive the Grand Trunks flyers. gineers Rice and Chalmers, of Windsor, will replace them, the latter removing with his family to London. -The second degree was conferred on a candidate at Dominion Lodge, I. O. O. F., last night, Bro. R. K. Cowan presiding, and Bros. W. D. Mills, Geo.

Arnott, W. Portwood, Dr. Neu and others assisting. Brethren were present from Toronto, Caradoc, Florence and other places. -Mary Finnegan, aged 17, a former inmate of the Mount Hope Orphanage here, who was given a home by T. J Rooney, con. 9, Arthur township, Wellington county, died rather suddenly

on Wednesday. The cause is unknown,

Children's Aid Society was notified,

and wired the coroner to do as he

and an inquest may be held.

-A lady while shopping at Smallman & Ingram's on Thursday, left her baby in the perambulator outside the door. She finished her purchases and went straight home, forgetting all about the child. A policeman watched the little one for two hours, and had just started to wheel it to the police station when the anxious mother put in an appearance and claimed her

-A newsboy on a trolley car was carrying bundles of papers to the east end yesterday, and, as usual, was tossing them off at the various stores as the car passed. In throwing one he did not see another trolley car coming in an opposite direction. The bundle crashed through the vestibule window of the passing car and struck the motorman on the head. The motorman was "completely taken by surprise," but recovered in time to return the papers.

-For some time past residents of packages of our holiday stock. Dorchester township, have had their We have made a sort of a fowl stolen in a most daring manner hobby of perfumes this sea- and in large quantities. For a time all efforts to trap the thieves proved son. We hope our hobby will ineffectual. Suspicion, however, atdevelop into a contagion tached itself to tenants of a farm south of Dorchester Station, and the other evening Mr. John Lee and Mr. Wilson, both of whom had had some fine birds stolen, visited the house of the suspects. When they got to the place they found about 30 turkeys which had just been killed and thrown under the house. In the house was about the same number, and outside was a wagon load of feathers. The men took the number of fowl which they had lost, and the occupants of the house lost no time in moving away

to parts unknown. CHANGES ON STREET RAILWAY ROUTES.

A change has been made in the street railway service on the Hamilton road. Rectory street and market lines. The market cars will run on Dundas street as formerly, but instead of going to the loop at the fair grounds, they will turn at Rectory street and run south to the G. T. R. tracks, returning by the same route. The Hamilton road cars will run as formerly to Oxford street, with the exception that instead of the terminus being on the Hamilton road at Rectory street, they will run north to meet the market cars at the G. T. R. tracks. This does away with the Rectory street belt.

AREAD OF TIME. The big bell at St. Peter's Cathedral rang out loud and long the other night about half an hour after midnight, and many who heard it thought it an alarm, and that the building was on fire. It was a relief, however, in the morning to find that no such catastrophe had taken place, and that the bell had been rung in mistake by the caretaker, who was about six hours ahead of time. The bell is rung every morning at 6 o'clock, and as the hands of the clock at 12:30 are in the same position as 6 o'clock, only that the small and big hands are reversed, the caretaker, in reading the time, mistook the one for the other.

DUNDAS STREET RUNAWAY. About 12:15 o'clock today a horse with a broken pair of shafts dangling at its heels galloped madly along Dundas street from the east end, and although several people attempted to stop the animal as it went through the center of the city it continued on its way and ran over into London West before it was caught. Fortunately no one was hurt, but there were some narrow escapes, particularly on Dundas street, between Waterloo and Wellington, where the animal took to the sidewalk and caused pedestrians to run for store doors. When caught it was brought to the Queen's Hotel, where the owner was directed for it. He left the name of Callard, and said the horse had become frightened at

the trolley on Dundas street east.

Alphonse Cyr, who ran a nail into his foot while working in Booth's Root Tea, the great Blood Purifier. Cures mills, died of lockjaw in the hospital at Headache, Nervousness, Eruptions on the purpose of receiving reports from "tossing ball." Lines of the natives the Face, and makes the head as clear the various factories as to the result of as a bell. Sold by all druggists. the various factories as to the result of the season's business. One of the mem-It is pretty hard for some people to bers said that compared with last year side and the youths on the other. At

The County Council to Arbitrate the Proof Line Road Purchase,

And Arrange a Basis of Settlement-The Council Finishes Its Business.

SATURDAY MORNING. The labors of the county council were brought to a close by the passing of bylaws appointing the high constable

and hospital trustee, and a resolution thanking Warden Leitch for his efficient services during the year, which will be engrossed and presented to him. The first report of the educational committee was laid over until the June session. It recommended that a grant equal to the government grant be made to all school sections in this county

pliance with school regulations. The third report of the finance committee, recommending that \$61 49 be paid to the treasurer of Dorchester, being a portion of the cost of sending one Mooney to the Pasteur Institute, was

having continuation classes, in com-

adopted. On motion of Simon McLeod and D. F. Stewart, the matter of the erection of a bridge between Caradoc and Delaware was laid over until the June ses-

Moved by R. W. Jackson and C. C. Hodgins, that in the matter of the removal of the tolls from the Proof Line road, this council agrees to submit to arbitration the question of the amount that should be contributed to the cost of the same by the various municipalities interested; also the price to be paid to the Proof Line Road Company; and this council agrees to be bound by the decision of said arbitrators, provided that the councils of the city of London and the township of London pass a similar resolution. Carried. Messrs. Jackson and Duffin moved that a committee, consisting of Councilors McLeod, Hodgins and Warden Leitch, be appointed, with power to carry out the foregoing resolution; also that the committee be empowered to arrange a basis of arbitration and to appoint such arbitrators as may be required in the interest of the country. Carried.

Six hundred copies of the minutes of the proceedings of the council were ordered to be printed. The council then adjourned until the fourth Tuesday in January, 1898.

SESSIONS DOCKET.

List of Jury and Non-Jury Cases To Be Heard.

Following are the cases to be heard at the December sessions, which open on Tuesday before Judge Wm. Elliot:

JURY LIST. Haskett vs. Street Railway plaintiff; Hellmuth, for defendants. Betts vs. Williams - McEvoy, for plaintiff; Graydon, for defendant. Coyne vs. McNeil-Weekes, for plaintiff; Stuart, for defendants. Brazell vs. Frost-McEvoy, for plaintiff; Meredith, for defense.

NON-JURY. Scarcliff vs. Southam-Parke, for plaintiff; T. G. Meredith, for defend-Mitchell vs. McLoughlin-Stuart, for

plaintiff; Hanna, Sarnia, for defend-Veterinary School of Science vs. Walden-Weekes, for plaintiff; Davidson, St. Thomas, for defendants.

CRIMINAL DOCKET. Queen vs. Walter Mahon - Assault with intent. Queen vs. Michael Doxtator-Theft. Queen vs. John Taylor-Obtaining money under false pretenses.

BOYS IN THE BATH.

from prison.

Queen vs. John Glasford-Escaping

Junior Swimming Contests at the Y. M. C. A.-The Winners.

The bath-room at the Y. M. C. A. building was crowded with juniors this morning, when the second swimming contest was held. There were a large number of entries, and, including the spectators, about 100 boys were present. who greatly enjoyed the sport, either as Holman; scorers, F. Coles and F. Adams; referee, Charles Abbott.

Following were the winners: First race, 120 feet-1 Jack Dewar, 2 Jack Mattinson, 3 Gus Schaef. Second race, long dive-1 Archie Treleaven, 27 ft. 3 in.; 2 Cecil Swift, 26 ft. 5 in.; 3 Jack Dewar, 25 ft. 9 in.

Third race, obstacle-1 Jack Dewar, Cecil Swift, 3 Archie Treleaven. Fourth race, 200 feet-1 Jack Dewar, 67 seconds: 2 Archie Treleaven, 69 seconds: 3 Gus Schaef, 71 seconds. Fifth race, springboard dive-1 Jack Dewar, 2 Archie Treleaven, 3 Gus

Schaef. Sixth race, dive across bath and return—1 Jack Dewar, 7½ seconds; 2 Jack Ferguson, 8½ seconds; 3 Archie McMahen, 9 seconds. Seventh race, swimming on back again in the same grave from which

feet-1 Jack Dewar, 291/2 seconds; 2 Archie Treleaven, 30 seconds; 3 Jack Mattinson, 33 seconds. Eighth race, obstacle dive-1 Allan Fisher, 2 Chester McGuffin, 3 A. Tre-

leaven. Standing of contestants for swimming contests: J. Dewar, Gus Schaef, Cecil Swift, A. McMahen, A. Treleaven, C. Cook and P. Williams, C. Williams,

Mattinson The final contest, which will be for medals, will be held on New Year's

V. Kent, H. Marshall, A. Fisher, J.

THE NEW YORK BICYCLE RACF.

New York, Dec. 11-2 p.m.—As the hours dragged slowly on, and the haggard riders neared their goal, their mental condition became worse. Rice. was raving nearly all the time. He thought he had lost his eyes. He grew angry with his trainers because they would not give him tissue paper to fill up the eye sockets. Rice's pleading with Teddy Hale not to leave him was piteous. Miller on his wheel seemed as strong as ever, but off his wheel he was as weak as a little child.

CANADIAN CANNING BUSINESS PROSPEROUS.

Toronto, Dec. 11.-The Canadian Can-



Rogers 1847 Latest Pattern. Tea Spoons, per dozen, \$3 50. - Dessert Spoons and Forks, per dozen, \$6 00 Table Spoons and Forks, per dozen, \$6 50.

Spring Skates, 40c per pair.

Large Assortment of Hockey Skates.

HOCKEY STICKS Extra Quality, second growth 35c cach. XXX Quality, 25c each.

COWAN'S CASH HARDWARE Dundas St

and considerable money had been lost strings become knotted and tied beowing to low prices and a restriction of tween any pair of the natives it is the output was seriously discussed, considered as a settled engagement. Now, however, things have changed, for with the exception of a little corn, the stocks are exhausted. Prices have also remained at a fair height, and most of the canners have recouped themselves for the losses of last year. The scheme of restriction has in consequence died a natural death.

CANADA'S FINANCES.

The Showing Resulting From Improved Business.

Ottawa. Dec. 11.—The following is the revenue statement for the Dominion for the five months of the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, as compared with the same period in 1896: Customs \$8,312,266 \$8,008,684 Excise 2,676,911

Postoffice 1,430,000 Public works, including railways. 1,728,167 1.716.443 Miscellaneous 503,731 431,160 Totals\$14,651,077 \$14,734,912

Expenditure for the five months.....\$11,415,225 \$12,049,341 There is, therefore, an increase in every branch, except excise. The receipts for November are \$3,204,466 22, against \$2,783,181 96 in the same period last year.

Strange Race in Asia's Wilds

An Almost Unknown But Inter esting People.

Bones of Ancestors Held in Payment of Debts - No Old Maids Among Them-Marriage Customs.

In the wild and almost inaccessible

recesses of the Nan-ling Mountains, situate in the interior of Asia, lives a strange race of people called the Miautsze, whose history is shrouded in mystery. According to tradition, they have held aloof from the rest of mankind for a period of at least 2,000 years, and every attempt that has been made to dislodge them from their mountain fastnesses has been successfully resisted. So far as known only one expedition of white men has ever entered the territory, and that was headed by the German scientist, Dr. Adolph Bastian director of the Berlin Ethnological Museum. The expedition spent two months in the country of the Miautszes, and brought with them to civilization an account of a people and their customs and of their country hitherto unknown to the world at large. It is impossible to give any idea of the population of this savage nation. but as nearly as one can judge from what was learned of the natives they must number almost a million. The Miau-tsze are wholly dissimilar in appearance from the Chinese, or, in fact, any other race in Central Asia. They are slightly shorter than the Chinese but very stockily built, and have much darker skin. Their features also are sharp and straight, and they are much

neighbors. Their nature seems to be of a very passionate kind, and they are exceedingly courageous, although suspicious and revengeful. THEY ARE NEVER HUNGRY. The most remarkable thing about them is their indifference to everything that so affects all other branchonlookers or contestants. The officers es of the human family. They will go were: Judge, L. McLeay; starter, F. not miss it. They also stand intense for days without food and apparently heat and extreme cold with the same stolid indifference, exhibiting not the slightest evidence of suffering, and will travel for days at a time without sleep and but little rest. In this respect they are a most remarkable race, but the secret of their seeming ndifference undoubtedly lies not to extraordinary physical endowments, but to the strict early training that prevails among these savage people. Although brigands of the worst order, they are strangely honest among themselves, and have but one form of punishment, which is a peculiar one. If a man is caught stealing, no violence is done him. Instead of this, the aggrieved one at once goes off and digs up the bones of his ancestors, which are held securely until the property is returned. Then they bury the bones

> they took them, being careful not to injure them in the least. THE MARRIAGE CUSTOM. Another strange custom if this remarkable people is their strange marriage ceremony, and it is curious because it is so closely connected with their burial customs-in fact, whenever there is a funeral, there is also simultaneously a wedding. When a married man dies the Miau-tsze always delay the funeral until the widow has remarried. If, after waiting for several days, during which the body is tied up ready to be placed in the ground, the widow has not found a mate, she is in disgrace and is looked upon as an undesirable wife. If, however, she marries again the same day that her husband dies, she at once rises to the highest place in the estimation of the male element of the clan. The only chance for those of the women who fail is to escape to a different clan and become concubines to one of the "high men" of the district. There are no unmarried women among the Miau-tsze people. After passing the age of 20, if a girl has not secured a husband she either voluntarily or by force is compelled to join the concubine train of one of the "high men."

Another custom is that by drinking out of the same horn with a man the girl announces her consent to become Toronto, Dec. 11.—The Canadian Can-his wife. Still another and stranger ners' Association met yesterday for way of choosing a wife is that of the net, on Nov. 15. His party are all distinguish between what they think well, and they expect to reach Dawson in February.

It is pretty hard for some people to the business of the present one has a given signal they each throw at the been most encouraging. At this period other a colored ball. To these balls in February.

A PECULIAR WORSHIP.

The Miau-tsze practically have no religion, although they worship a species of white bull, and make many sacrifices of it and to it. During these festivities all the bad members of the different clans are brought scene of the sacrifices in order that the devils may be dismissed from them. To accomplish this a straw goat is made and carried through the streets on the shoulders of the criminals, after which it is set on fire by them, and as the flames consume the effigy so they also take away the evil spirits from the turbulent members of the tribe. One queer trait among these barbarous people is their respect for old age. As soon as a person becomes too old or is otherwise incapacitated for work he is taken care of by the younger members of the clan

IT IS something of a surprise to learn that from Rome, the home of the arts. the value of the cheese imported from that city is only \$1,000 less than the value of the paintings-cheese being the second article on use list of exports from Rome.

"Oh, do look at that dear little lamb," said Frances on seeing a lamb for the first time in her life. "Isn't it pretty?" asked mamma. "Yes, and it is so natural, too. It squeaks just like a toy lamb, and has the same sort of wool on its back."

THISTLE, ROSE AND SHAMROCK CON-CERT-Knox Church, London South. Tuesday, Dec. 14; literary and musical programme by best local talent. Admission 25c.

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